



September 14, 2012

Board of Selectmen
195 Main Street
Maynard, Massachusetts 01754

Honorable Board of Selectmen;

Please accept this as an abridged accounting of activities related to my efforts as Town Administrator;

Police Chief Search; Citizen comments have been overwhelmingly positive. It is disappointing that the level of vitriol from some has made others apprehensive about coming forward with their sincere observations. I feel the Board of Selectmen have taken yet another step towards enhancing this community. I feel strongly when Lieutenant Dubois ... strike that... when Chief Dubois brings his experience and knowledge to bear the entire community inside the police department and out will benefit exponentially.

I had the distinct pleasure to speak with his co-workers, friends, family members and professional acquaintances and to a fault they expressed many admirable attributes, but time and time again “ethical” was the word of the day. I look forward to his appointment on Tuesday.

Solar Array Update; I first would like to thank you and the residents of Maynard for your patience in regards to all the delays related to this project. In conversations with Deputy Director Lee Dillard-Adams she strongly indicated that the final approvals should happen before the end of September. Our partner EPG Solar and their agent Rob Babcock is ready to move as soon as the final sign-offs from EEA and DEP are acquired. Mr. Babcock feels confident there will be electricity flowing from the Waltham Solar Array before year’s end and the “Off Leash” Dog Park ready to use by spring 2013. This project has been a bureaucratic nightmare, but with diligence and support from state partners, especially Representative Kate Hogan it will eventually be ...electric!

MAPC Regional Transportation Initiative (CIC Grant); There were two large and important regional meetings held in Maynard this past Tuesday, both of which I kept our interests front and center. The first was held at Clock Tower Place and included representatives from the five town transportation collaborative and a number of state officials including Secretary of Administration and Finance Jay Gonzalez, my favorite State Representative Kate Hogan, State Senator Jamie Eldridge and others to discuss progress on the GPS mapping project that our project contractor Transaction has been compiling. The state officials were encouraged and there is already interest from other regions in the concept we are developing here in the Assabet Valley.

The second meeting brought planners, selectmen, a Town Administrator (me) and other interested parties together to discuss strategies as how to create a Transit Management Association (TMA) so we can access federal transportation funding and grants. This plan when finalized will require enormous political support, but will transform this region. There is no bigger economic development project for the communities in the Assabet Valley. 128 TMA and MetroWest TMAs are two examples of how this business and development collaborative may be driven. Large employers and retail centers contribute to fertilize their business through accessibility.

We are realistically a couple of years away from developing a recognizable and executable transit form, but we need to have Maynard at the heart of any model.

TCS of America; This agreement which will hopefully you will sign Tuesday will produce a benefit for our bottom line. The goal of this arrangement is to have a professional audit of our telecommunications cost. Any savings realized will be shared between the municipality and TCS. If they do not find any savings we pay nothing, they get thirty five percent of whatever they find. TCS can also negotiate new rates for us with approved carriers, but we will walk before we run. We have already wrung out all the savings we could in house, now we are calling for back up.

Maynard Country Club Re-use Committee; This recent Monday evening was the inaugural meeting of the Maynard Country Club Re-use (MCCR) besides all six of the committee members, there were a number of interested citizens and MAPC Land Use Specialist Mark Racicot. The meeting laid the groundwork for both the land use grant and the committee to get off to a roaring start. There will be a meeting with department heads and related staff on September 27, followed that evening with Boards/ Commissions. On October 10th there will be a community meeting and a “walk around” at the Golf Course on October 20th. Most of these charettes will be held at the country club and are all intended to get as much input from the community as possible. The target date is for this committee to report out proposed uses is to coincide with the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, giving sufficient time to draw much input.

Maynard Contributory Retirement Board; I have been in contact with PERAC Executive J Connarton and he has assured me that everything is being done to exercise the assurance bond to offset any losses and he asks that we be patient as the pursuit unfolds. The comments by the Chairman in the Globe were unfounded, unfortunate, but not surprising. I have made my feelings known to him as well. So my suggestion is be patient for the time being.

Reo/Coolidge; These two projects are in the final design and bid document stage and I am applying appropriate pressure on the designer to get this out to bid. I do not want to miss the construction cycle and have these projects knocking around next summer; I also want the design to be right. There is however a need to move on as other projects are in the queue. I also place laminated copies of the park design at both locations at the entrances (Coolidge, Parker Street). I will continue to keep you apprised of progress

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Michael J. Sullivan

Town Administrator, Maynard